



Recreation & Parks
Department Report
May 2022

- Eleven groups used the Hughes Center during April for a total of 153 hours. Events included several scout meetings, a political meet and greet, a Chi Alpha campus ministry event and an ICR Church Easter service.
- For the month of April the Russellville Aquatic Center had 21 regular parties and eight private parties for a total of 66 hours. Classes held in April included Water Aerobics, Deep Water Aerobics, Silver Sneakers Splash, Aqua HIIT, Kayak Rolling and scuba classes for a total of 36 hours. The annual Aqua Egg Hunt was held on April 2 with 189 kids participating. The Yell County swift water rescue team used the aquatic center for training on April 18 and the Pope County search and rescue team trained on April 18. Two boy scout troops conducted swim tests on April 18 and April 25 with a combined total of 12 scouts.
- The Parks Commission met on April 14. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at www.russellvillearkansas.org.
- The department had 23 pavilion rentals and 29 practice field reservations for Shiloh Park and Pleasant View Park in April.
- In safety matters, the department performed inspections on all fire extinguishers, vehicles, offices and all park buildings. A fire drill was conducted at the Hughes Center. Maintenance staff continued their weekly safety talks in April.
- Balloons Over Russellville was held on April 29, April 30 and May 1. There were hot air balloons, bands, bump and jumps, concession wagons and chainsaw wood carvers at the event. Although the weather didn't cooperate this year for the hot air balloon flights, the event still drew large crowds to Russellville.
- Pleasant View Park was the host site for three fast pitch softball tournaments in April. The tournaments brought 63 teams from across the state to Russellville.
- The new playground at Sequoyah Park was installed in April. The playground has many ADA features plus swings and a merry-go-round. When the weather permits, the final dirt and sod work will be done and the park will re-open to the public.
- The Recreation and Parks Department would like to thank the volunteers from Community Service Inc. for donating and planting 25 oak trees at the Russellville Soccer Complex. The trees will provide much needed shade in the years to come.
- The aquatic center Easter egg hunt was big success this year. There were special prizes, door prizes and goodie bags for all the kids that attended.
- The Learn to Swim program is off to a good start. The program allows individuals or businesses to sponsor free swim lessons for kids at the aquatic center. At this time, 87 swim lessons have been sponsored. If anyone is interested in being a sponsor, please contact the aquatic center at 479-890-7946.